NINE BOOKS

폐쇄자

뒤

유시진

(주)서울문화사
값3,500원

JOKER

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폐쇄 病

앞의 뒤

he Closer

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(주)서울문화사
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Volume 2, The artist's words:

Thank you for reading Volume 2... T_T
Mm, this story is...(Of course every
work is probably like that)
I think you would interpret it differently, based on
what you're focusing on. There
are many layers and I am
interested in all of them, so I had fun making them.
On the technical stuff, I started this work after planning out
all plots (This was a good idea), and I put many pages
in each chapter (For me, this was...like meeting
another world) et cetera. I could experience many new things.
I want to believe that it was time well
spent...-_-:: (I am trying my hardest)
I am in fear for my life as a serious manhwa artist. Well,
I had been doing it seriously for a few years now,
but recently I feel desperate. But I'll keep doing this
unless I disappear from the manhwa scene or get buried in it...
Then I hope to see you again soon...^^

Spell 3 Spellbound

Shioram?
Are you mad?
Numan! Please stop her!
Are you just going to watch?

Numan!
Shioram- did you forget?
We came here to return safely with the Keeper!
We were sent to protect the Keeper!

No, not at all.
What we should protect is the /mark/
It's not the Keeper
I don't want something like this.
If I truly knew what this was...
I would never have accepted it.

We can do this the easy way, Keeper
Give me the /mark/
. . . .
I can't.
Then... I'm sorry.

There is no other way!
This must cease to exist.

Sfx
Woosh
It should not exist inside a petty human.
Sfx
Woosh

Bang

Yenta-!
.....
You're really..
Ember-
Were you going to close our world?

Tell me, Keeper - Is that true?
You are ...us...
For you, we are...
Damn it

When we got back... this time...
I was going to scold you a lot.

Why...
Why are you so selfish?
No matter what you do, you will die,
Like you planned to just now, you will die by my hand- or you will die because your /mark/ will be taken by someone
Then, why won't you let our world survive?

Give me the /mark/, Keeper.
Please be the Keeper until the end
Am I going to die no matter what?
Did you never think that I would fight with you to protect my life and win?
Did you realize that, that is what I have done many times until now?
No...
No.
You are not who you were before.
You have no will to protect yourself.

And people who don't want to protect themselves can't be Keeper.
Keeper's life is our world's life.
I can't let you die now.
Give us the /mark/.
Give the /mark/ to Shioram.
I am sorry-

I don't want to do that.
Did you forge t that I'm very stubborn, Numan?
!
... Yes,
Of course I know.
Damn it I knew I always knew
I knew that you would cause an accident someday

That's why I told you,
That guy shouldn't be a Keeper!
Sfx. Clang Clang
!!

Sfx:
Clang
Heat-
Quickly, the heat-
I always heard the same words, too-
Heat-

He shouldn't be a Keeper.
Hiisa-?!
This is fun, Shioram.
You know well that he's weak against ice attacks,
And you are skillful at it. You must have been planning for this situation for a long time now

Damn it... This is annoying. Hiisa is here, at a time like this-
It's hard enough facing one Keeper.
...Did you come here to eat the /mark/?
So what if I did?
You are late, Hiisa

Well ...
I don't think so.

Sfx:
Woosh

Sfx: Woosh
...Aah.
It was dangerous
!?

He disappeared ...?
Sfx Woosh
!!

Like that...
Sfx Shiver
...She will die.
If we leave it like this,
Shioram will die.
We have to stop them
We shouldn't do this, just to fight-

Sfx: Woosh
Shioram-
...Where did they go?
Both of them
I can't see.

!!

!
Oh no-
Shioram!

Sfx-
Move

Stop-
Stop, Hiisa!
You won!
Stop!
.....
I hoped that this wouldn't happen

Finally, the Keeper will become someone from White Line...
I can comfort myself — that this is not the worst possible thing that could've happened.
Go home, Numan.

What...?
I'm the one who should end things with him,
And I don't want other people's help
I fought with Keeper many times
I have a responsibility to check what's going to happen with my own two eyes
Numan,
Should I fight with you too?
That's useless.
Shioram is not yet dead.
If you take her home now, you could still save her life.

.....
What's really bothering you?
Anyway, if I'm with him, you could trust that the /mark/ won't just disappear
if the /mark/ disappears Ember and I will disappear together.
What's important to you is the /mark/ and not that, right?

He still looks the same...

My kind father who didn't really exist.

...You are going to take the /mark/.
Yes...What about it?
Do you still not want to give it to me?
...Well then, let's rest for a while.
I'm too tired to fight another round right now.

I told you many times not to skip meals.
...You got skinnier.
Don't act like my father again.
My lovely son
Didn't you want to see me?
Aah,

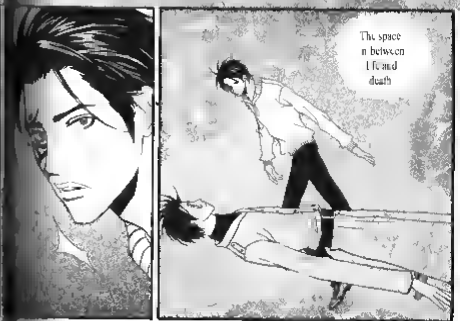
Yes?
...I forgot it all
The fake memories which you gave me...
That's too bad. I worked hard on them
They were too bright and beautiful and not much like realty, though
But still,
There were real memories too, right?
We were father and son for some time.
.....
When I was at Ember,
I didn't think that you were such a weird guy.

Well, when I went to you we always fought
We didn't have much chance
Koon,
Let s go to Nowhere together someday
I want to swim with you
...Ah, yes...
He was weird then too
I always thought that he was such a weird guy
Something got stuck in my throat and I couldn't swallow it or spit it out A strange and unfamiliar lump of feeling
I remember what we should do.
Let's go to Nowhere.

I...like it here.

This quiet freedom-
I've loved it since I first started to swim

S ence, wh ch does not be ong in my world.


The space n between l f and death

!
...I closed one world,
And I was destroyed.

...I don't exist.
I am nothing.
I am not here.
I am not anywhere.
Please let me be 'not here' forever.

Voice which is familiar and unfamiliar...

That is...

At that time...
Who do you think found you at Nowhere?
Who brought you into another world by swimming?
...
Hiisa...
Hiisa,
It was you...
It was... your voice.

How...
Why were you there?
I want to say that it was a coincidence
Are you kidding me?
Yes.
I followed you.
I was outside when you met Sanha.
And when you <closed> that place
I was watching.

.....
You were...
Watching ...?
You were... watching that?
Why...
Why didn't you stop me?
Me? Why?
Even if you closed that world I knew that both of us would survive because we don't belong to it.

But...
But...!
Are you trying to make someone else responsible for what you did, Keeper?
No...
.....
Not that.
You did what you wanted to do- that's okay
You feel satisfied,
Right?
.....

Why are you in pain like that, Koon?
You used the skill which you had, on a place where you wanted to use it.
.....
You don't know
You... don't know...
I am...
I should have been the person who maintains worlds
Always, so they won't get closed It should have been like that
Closer is just-
Shadow.
It exists in a place as dark as the light is strong, but it never steps on the surface

But ...
...It is evil
This is evil.
It's not evil.
That's the /mark/
You must have learned it well enough
.....
Yes,
But.. I never <truly> understood ..
That it was like that.
Nobody asked me,
'Do you know what it is? Do you know it truly,
Not with your head, but do you know it with your heart?'

So I... trusted.
It's for protection.
It's life.
Beautiful things,
Weak and lovely things,
So I became a Keeper
...I never tried to be the Closer.
It's the same thing.
.....
When worlds have remained past the time they were supposed to close-
There are no beautiful things and lovely things in Ember
Only ashes remain there.

But there were weak things
Like me,
So I kept on.
But-
Keeper,
Protector,
Guardian,
A person who maintains,
Which young me could accept and understand
That duty which was painful and proud
I destroyed...
One world
I closed it.

I closed it.
I closed it.
If I don't run away,
I will die.
I will be crushed by the sin that I committed.
I will be burnt and broken and die.

...
Sanka.
My light,
My wings.
My... dead wings.

I didn't notice anything else...
Keeper and Ember- neither of them mattered
I just wanted to be... Koon
Koon, who loves Sanka
But isn't it funny?
When she died-
The first thing which woke up was Keeper...
Closer.
That was me at the end
I tried to push it away, ignoring it, and running away from it-
But I couldn't avoid it.
I tried to push it down.
But it exploded.

.....
...It would've been nice if I was destroyed by Sanka's death
I loved her...I loved her like crazy.
If it was like that, then I would've had no regrets.
If I got broken ...and ran away because of that.

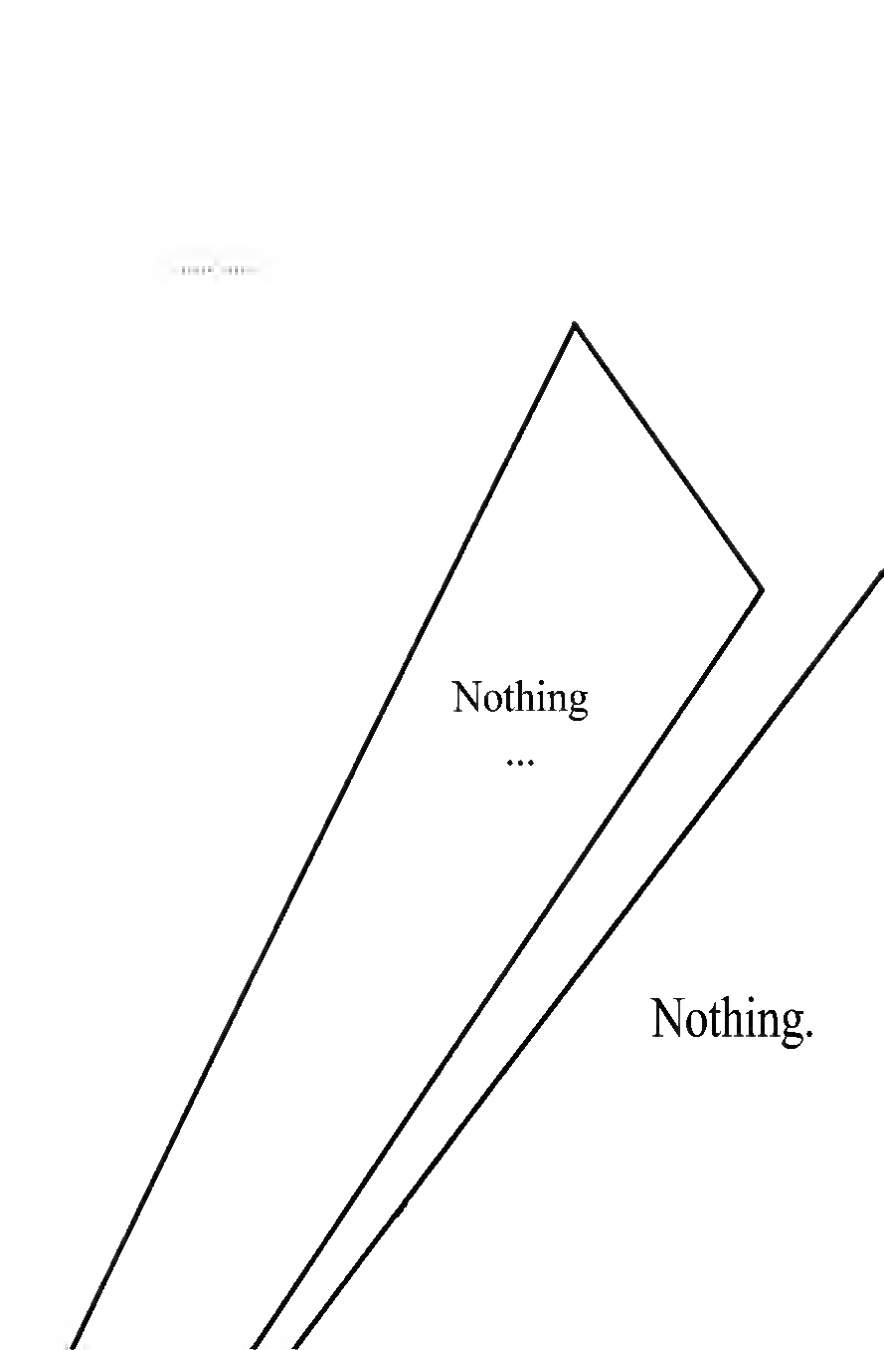
...But what broke me was
It was not Sanka's death
It was what I did, and who I became
So ultimately, I was a Keeper
I was a Keeper inside, rather than being Koon In all my bones
When I think about that, I get angry and my stomach hurts
This is unfair...
I can't do anything, even if I struggle

You want this?
I want to end it quickly
I am tired.
What are you doing, Hisa?

Hold my arm.
Did you forget how to receive the /mark/?
Run away, Koon...
Run away to a place that nobody knows.
A place where nobody can follow
There is nowhere like that
Even if such place exists-
I can't run away from myself.
That's not true

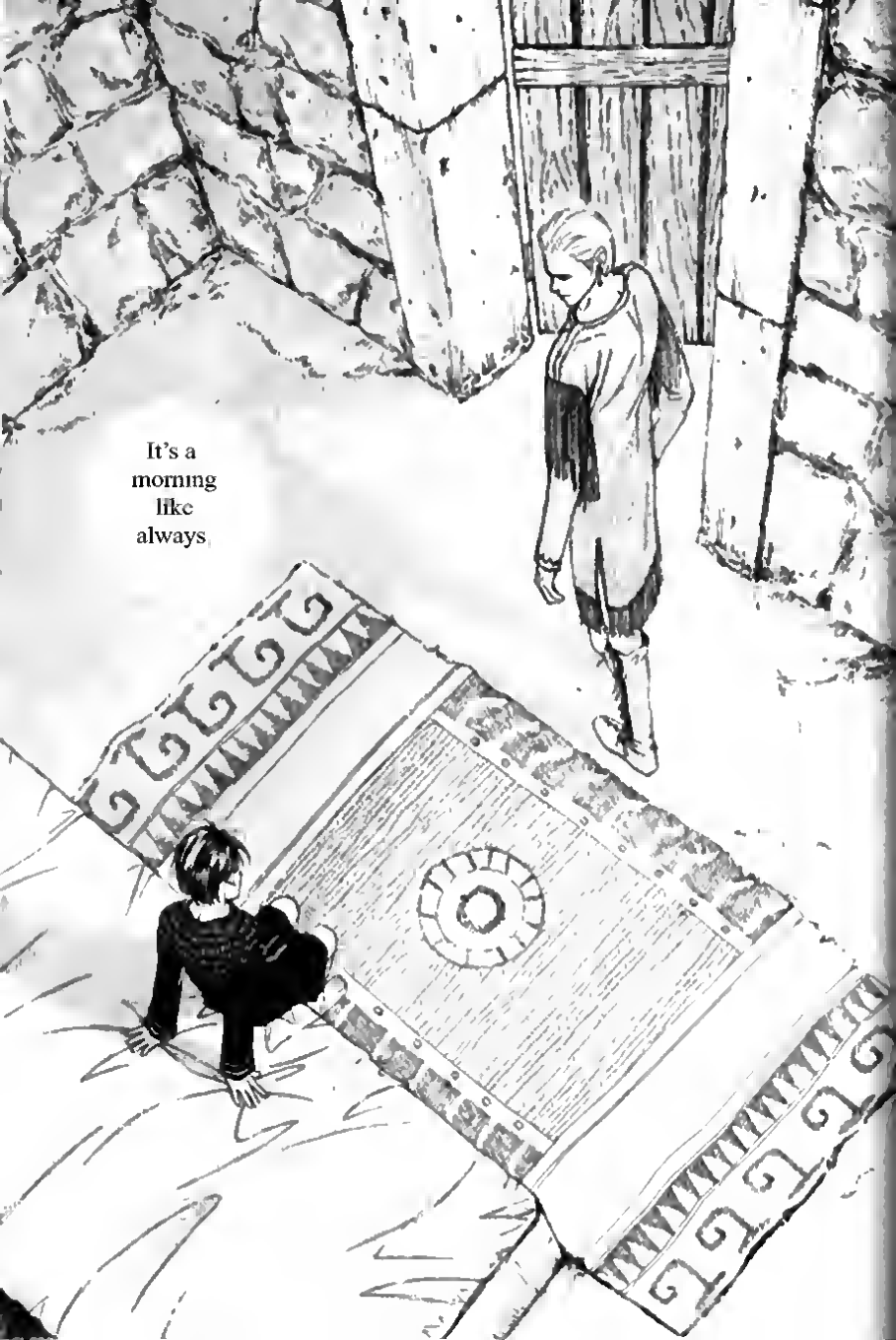
If you really prepare yourself to run away-
You can run away from anything,
Even from yourself.
Trust me.
I will help you.
I will make you run away from everything.
You are a Keeper because you still remember,
So forget everything.
There is no Keeper,
There is no /mark/,
And you will survive.

Close your eyes...
The voice which caresses me softly...
It's soft like a devil,
Let go of everything
and seductive like darkness-


Nothing
...
Nothing.

Blink
...
Brother?
Smile

You finally woke up, Son.
How is your headache?
Huh...?
It's okay- it's okay.
Yes. The medicine which you drank last night must've worked.
It's nice that you have a great potion maker with you
Right?
Now, wake up and clean yourself
Breakfast is going to get cold
...Warm sunlight.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like
always

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